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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/633,944

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John Kolbjoern Roedseth

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05/20/2008

THE GOODYEAR TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT 823
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EXAMINER

KNABLE, GEOFFREY L

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1791

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

05/20/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/633,944	Applicant(s) ROEDSETH ET AL.	
	Examiner Geoffrey L. Knable	Art Unit 1791	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 February 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-4 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 5 and 9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
2. Claims 1-4 remain withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made without traverse in the reply filed on 10-5-2005.
3. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

New claim 9 (which needs a status identifier) defines that the cone mechanism is "located axially inwards of the central support mechanism." As the central segment support mechanism ("150") spans the axial centerline of the drum (and is somewhat amorously defined such that it seemingly could be read to exclude the segments themselves), it is arguably not entirely clear what is meant by defining the cone mechanism as axially inward thereof. It would seem that this is defining that the cone mechanism is at least in part axially within the axial extremities of the drum segments/support, and has been so read for the rejections to follow, but clarification/confirmation is required.

4. Claims 5 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a/e) as being anticipated by Byerley (US 6,457,505).

Byerley discloses a tire building drum including a central screw (40), a pair of inflatable turn-up bladders (357), a central segment support mechanism having a plurality of radially expandable segments (136) with cam followers (144, 150) in

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engagement with surfaces of a cone mechanism (200) actuatable by a piston member (228 - col. 9, lines 32-36), and a pair of bead locks (340, 400, etc.) each mounted on an axially movable housing (102, 104) connected to the central screw (e.g. col. 7, lines 11+). Since the " housings " (102, 104) carry the bead locks and are axially adjustable to adjust the axial width of the drum (e.g. col. 7, lines 39-51), the bead locks are axially movable upon rotation of the central screw. Further, the piston member 228 for the cone mechanism is clearly operable independent of the central screw. As to the requirement for a pair of " support rings , " note the extensions located immediately axially inward of the bead lock support surface, these extensions moving under the segments as the segments radially expand - note especially fig. 2 where these extensions are clearly depicted as fitting into recesses under the drum segments:

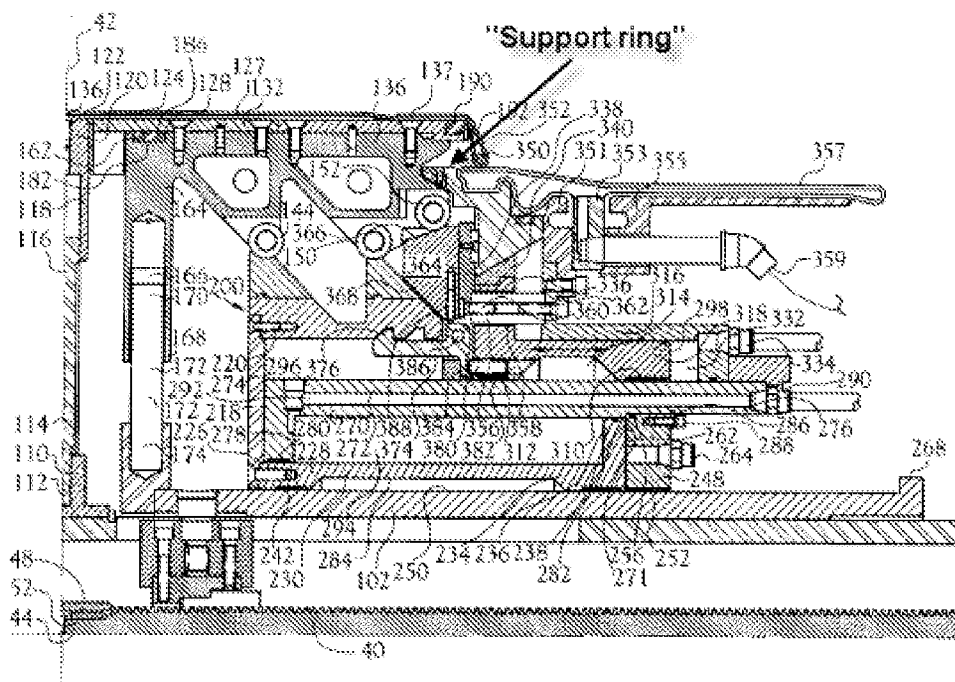


Fig. 2

A drum that anticipates claim 5 as amended is therefore suggested. As to claim 9, the cone mechanism is within the axial limits of the drum segments/support.

5. Claims 5 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Baldoni et al. (US 6,360,802).

Baldoni et al. discloses a tire building drum comprising a central screw (11), a pair of inflatable turnup bladders (58), a central segment support mechanism having a plurality of radially expandable segments (50) that engage/follow conical cam surfaces (52; note col. 4, lines 9-13) of a cone mechanism, a pair of bead locks (43), a pair of support rings (49; including support surface "55a"), each support ring (49/55a) being positioned between the radially expandable segments (50) and a bead lock (43) and wherein as the segments expand and the bead locks move axially inwardly, the support rings move under the segments (e.g. compare figs. 2 and 3). Further, the central screw (11) provides for axial movement of the bead locks (e.g. compare figs. 4 and 5) and the cone mechanism is actuatable independently of the central screw (by piston 37). This reference therefore anticipates the requirements of claim 5. As to claim 9, the conical surface is at least in part axially within the lateral edges of drum defined by the segments 50.

6. Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection necessitated by the amendments to the claims.

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Geoffrey L. Knable whose telephone number is 571-272-1220. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Crispino can be reached on 571-272-1226. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Geoffrey L. Knable/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1791

G. Knable
May 17, 2008